

**From:** Fernando Aguilera  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear DOJ:

The new threat posed by Microsoft today is greater than it has ever been. In the past, companies, products, and dreams were shattered by their monopolistic practices. However, with their new suite of development products and their .Net vision, Microsoft is poised at taking over the Internet. How?

By selling their Windows XP software, they have introduced users to their passport technology which is used to store user's sensitive data. This in turn produces a demand for their .Net web services which companies will be hard-pressed to ignore. Unfortunately, these .Net web services will only run on Microsoft XP servers, which will in turn increase demand for Windows XP, as well as other products such as databases, server administration tools, and a host of other Microsoft utilities. The next step in the process is to de-commoditize the Internet protocols as revealed in the infamous "Halloween Documents" internal memo. As more users and companies jump on the bandwagon, Microsoft will release "improvements" to these standard protocols. These improvements will be nothing more than annoying syntax incompatibilities deliberately introduced into the protocols so only Microsoft systems can communicate with each other over the Internet, thus forcing even more consumers onto their bandwagon. Since no new companies will exist to offer any resistance or competition because venture capitalists will cower from anyone offering a competing product, users will be left with no choice. At this stage, users will either join the bandwagon, or be totally left out. Once we reach this point, its all lost. Microsoft will in effect OWN the once mighty Internet, and start charging small transaction processing fees (taxes) on every business transaction taking place. Likewise, they will be able to dictate what content is suitable for publication on their "private network" and will have the power to starve all non-compliant web publishers simply by not directing any traffic to their site.

It is inconceivable that the once might ARPANET military network, which in turn became the Internet we all enjoy world-wide, would one day be subjugated by a single company for their gain and everyone else's loss. Yet this is the exact thing that is happening today. Our digital medium of global communications is being robbed by a single corporation. Allowing this to happen, would be the single biggest blunder in our country's anti-trust history, one from which we may never recover.

Sincerely,

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